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Paperd March 1828

On the Derangement
of the
Digestive Organs.

By

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of New Jersey

Submitted to the inspection of the medical faculty,
with much diffidence; for although the sentiments
held forth in the essay, have been adopted and believed
by the author from his reading and reflection, yet he
acknowledges his inexperience in so complicated a subject, and
begs that this may be his excuse for thus imposing it upon them.
Philad^a March 5th 1828

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On the derangement of the Digestive Organs.

Amongst the numerous ills that man is heir to, there are none which present a more interesting subject of inquiry to the Pathologist than that class of diseases which affect the viscera concerned in digestion.

This function is so important to the animal economy, so essential to the comfort and well-being of man, that the least disturbance or interruption of it is followed by effects which are felt either directly or by sympathy in every part of the frame. It is not until within a few years that any considerable advances have been made towards a correct knowledge of these insidious maladies. It is chiefly to the researches of the ingenious Dr Philip and more recently

to those of Dr Jas Johnson, does the profession—
 then stand indebted for their present store
 of information, derived from abroad, relative to
 the pathology and treatment of these diseases.
 The distinguished Professor of the institutes and
practice of medicine in this school is certainly
 entitled to a large share of credit for the faith-
 ful history he has given us of the maladies
 in question, and for the attention he has
 devoted to various affections of the primæ
viæ in general. Nor is it to be wondered
 at, that this branch of Pathology should
 have so long remained obscured by the
 clouds of error, when we reflect on the
 Proteo-form character of the diseases of the
 stomach and chylopoietic viscera, and the
 consequent difficulty of reducing affections so
 various and dissimilar to any correct system
 of nosological arrangement.

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Indeed the rage for classification, and the attempts to point out specific and appropriate remedies, have contributed not a little to prevent our attaining to a correct knowledge of the classes of diseases in question, whose characteristic symptoms were so multiform and anomalous, as to render abortive ~~any~~ attempt at correct classification. This is confirmed by the fact, that many of those affections which are well known now, to be mere symptoms of derangements of the Digestive Organs, were considered by Dr Cullen and other systematic writers, as idiopathic nervous diseases, and were accordingly arranged by the former under his class nerves. Even the learned Dr Good, with all the advantages derived from improved medical science, has fallen into a similar error, by treating as primary affections, certain diseases which are manifestly no-

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thing more than symptomatic indications of
the class of disease under consideration—

In practice ~~the~~ physicians are invariably re-
quired by patients, or their friends, to affix
some determinate name to the malady, they
are about to relieve, and when this matter
is once satisfactorily settled, there is rarely
much difficulty in getting along with the
treatment, but when the medical attendant
is a little puzzled to gratify the eager curios-
ity of friends or nurses, on this point, the
endless "class of neuroses" happily comes to his
aid and at once pronounces the case Nervous
thus all parties are readily satisfied.

This mode of adjusting difficulties, is but
too often resorted to, in that numerous class
of anomalous affections which proceed
from a morbid state of the digestive
organs. And it were well for afflicted

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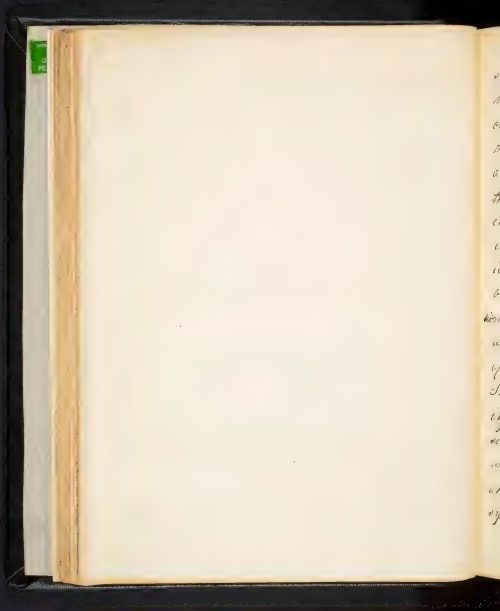
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humanely if the evil ended here, but alas! empirical and pernicious doctrine that carry disease, is distinct in its nature, and requires its specific remedy, is here brought to bear and the poor patient is drenched with tonics, stomachics, antacids, and antispasmodics, according to the various symptoms until either death kindly comes to his relief, or nature aided by travel (which leads him from the merciless clutches of the "Doctor") cures the disease.

It will hardly be required of me to describe the office of the stomach and other digestive organs, much less their anatomy - subjects, which are familiar to ~~most~~ first course student of Medicine - my present concern is with their pathology. It is necessary to my purpose however to glance at one physiological fact, which is, that these organs are liberally



supplied with nerves, and of course possess
 much of that principle called contractility,
 or organic sensibility. In a healthy state,
 this principle, as far at least as the stom-
 ach is concerned, is only manifested by
 the sensations of hunger, thirst, and sati-
 ety, if we except that pleasurable one,
 which every one experiences, when the func-
 tions of this important organ are carried
 on in a healthy manner. These sensa-
 tions may be considered as instinctive, and
 are implanted by nature for the purpose
 of directing the various animal actions.
 In a state of disease however this sensibi-
 lity becomes so much exalted as to produce
 sensations amounting often to actual pain,
 which is directly referable to the part affected,
 at other times displaying itself by various
 sympathetic affections in other and often

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remote parts. These sympathies, are doubtless
to be attributed to the wonderful nervous in-
tercommunication which extends through every
part of the system - but is especially dis-
played in that complicated tissue of nervous
arrangement; the glands sympathetic, whose
all pervading influence seems to reach every
part of the animal frame.

The Stomach then, is the centre from which
radiates in all directions these varied sym-
pathies. So long as this important organ
continues in its natural or healthy state,
the individual has a consciousness of ease,
comfort, strength, and pleasurable feelings,
with an aptitude and disposition to phys-
ical and mental exertion, and an increas-
ed animation and vivacity - there is
scarce any distinct sensation. When on
the contrary, the normal actions of the

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Stomach are deranged, there is a change in the whole man according to the nature of the disturbance. There is now, distinct sensation, but not of ease, comfort, or pleasure—in place of these, there is sickness, or pain, or languor, or oppression, or some other feeling, directly referable to that organ, which affects the whole frame, depriving it of its accustomed energy, perhaps sinking it into a state bordering on the extinction of life. These are chiefly the effects of causes acting immediately on the stomach, and may be produced at any time, or, in any individual however well in other respects! they may therefore be considered as the result of normal actions, continuance of these, or causes which weaken the organ or prevent its healthy and natural actions, whether acting directly on it, or indirectly through other

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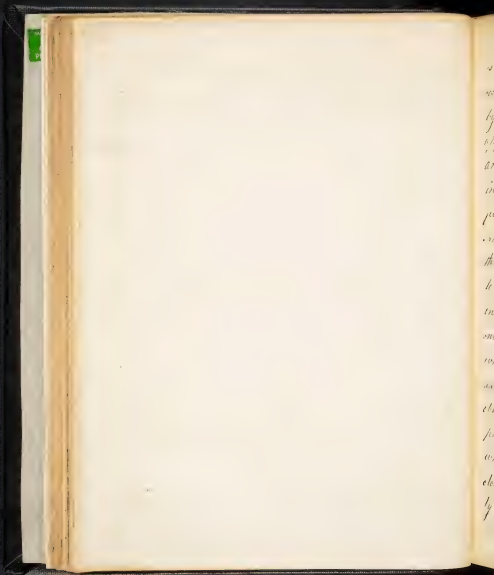
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parts or organs, produces effects altogether different from the foregoing. These are manifested by numerous anomalous affections, excited in various, and often, remote parts of the body, which although obscure and with difficulty traced to their primary seat, are nevertheless well known to proceed from disorders of the stomach, and other digestive organs. A late facetious writer, abroad, who takes occasion to ridicule what he is pleased to stile "Fashions in Physic" remarks, that it was not until of late that people knew they had a stomach. now this organ is spoken of on all occasions, and Dyspepsia, and Indigestion, are all the rage. Such indeed is the lamentable fact in the present perverted state of mans appetiti. In consequence of his great deviation from nature's simple plan.

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these various sympathies, which prevail in -
 every part of the animal economy, and are
 calculated to diffuse that ineffable, and in-
 definable sense of pleasure, throughout which
 we can better estimate by the loss, than
 demonstrate by its presence - these very -
 nervous sympathies become a source of pain,
 and of bodily and mental disease, as is -
 too often exemplified in that gloomy train
 of nervous maladies, which afflict the ex-
 hausted and shattered frames of the vot-
 aries of pleasure. To describe the various modes
 of affections, which proceed from disordered diges-
 tion organs, and are radiated through every part
 of the body, by means of the numberless nervous in-
 spirations, were to undertake an endless task, even
 as it would be co-extensive with the whole cata-
 logue of nervous ills, as they are cured by every
 varying idiosyncrasy - sufficient to say, that these



is no part of the human system, which is not occasionally brought into a state of sympathy, by the disorders referred to. The brain and its appendages the heart the lungs the kidneys and bladder the muscles of voluntary and involuntary motion, are all by turns made to feel the displeasure of an irritated stomach.

• Yet in these sympathies experienced alone in the corporeal frame the mind is also brought to participate in the suffering, and this in no inconsiderable degree as is evidenced in Hypochondriasis. There are still other affections known, whose shades of difference from a healthy state, are so insinuated, as to pass unnoticed by the casual observer. I refer to those slight and almost imperceptible deviations from a state of mental sanity, which consists, in more diminished energy, beclouded perception, confusion of thought, a sickly and desponding feeling, which causes the suf-

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men to view every thing, through a gloomy medium, a state of mind, which will be amply understood, by every observant dyspeptic.

It would be a curious ^{subject} of speculation to trace the influence of disorders of the kind under consideration on the moral conduct of men. That it receives an important bias from these physical causes, no one can doubt who is at all versed in ^{this} branch of pathology. Oppression of mental energy, capriciousness of temper and irritability, suspicion, jealousy, and other bad passions, which are destructive of the social feelings, and extend an unhallowed sway over the moral actions of men, are often the effect of disorders of digestive organs. The causes of the derangements in question, may be said to consist, in that departure which is caused, by a state of civilization and refinement, from nature's plan of primordial simplicity.



In these times of almost Persian luxury and effeminacy, when the ingenuity of man, is constantly employed in devising the means of pampering the appetite, and contributing to sensual gratification, when all ~~the~~ may be said to be unceasingly seeking, to appease the perverted cravings of that idol of the sensualists worship, the stomach, it is not to be wondered at, that we should pay the penalty of one having thus transgressed the limits of nature's simplicity, by incurring a multitude of diseases unknown to our more temperate ancestors: nor is it less surprising that the stomach and digestive organs, should bear the onus of this suffering. I need scarcely mention intemperance in the use of stimulant potations, such as spirits, wine, and beer, which are a fruitful source of the disorders under consideration, and under this



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head might be classed the common bever-
 ages, tea and coffee, whose habitual use, has
 contributed not a little to the same end.
 Besides what may properly be called -
 ingesta, there is one other luxury the immor-
 rate use of which is destructive to the digestive
 function. I allude to tobacco: and it matters
 but little, ~~whether~~ this be taken in the form
 of snuff, the cygar, or the pipe; its influence
 is alike deleterious to the stomach. Modern
 refinement, has introduced many other innova-
 tions, which have their share in the preva-
 lence of these diseases, and amongst them I
 mention late hours, sedentary employment,
 want of exercise in the open air intense appli-
 cation to business, or intellectual exertion,
 which last seems to act by depriving the di-
 gestive organs of their due share of cerebral
 energy. There are other causes which are



connected with some, & not others, but operate through the surface, or lungs, to produce disorders of the liver or spleen, such as in medity, vicissitudes of temperature and miasmatic exhalations. These however affect the digestive process only secondarily. Besides the preceding, which may be called physical causes, there are those of a moral character, which, although less common and less obvious, are not the less certain in their effects. Thus we may mention the depressing passions, grief, anger, fear. In the present state of society, there are a thousand causes of mental perturbation and anxiety, growing out of the various relations in which mankind are placed, that conspire to give birth to the evil in question, and in comparison with which, most of the physical causes dwindle into insignificance. I need only instance a few of them—as the common

of business, domestic cares the desire of fame, ambition, all of which exert a more or less degree of influence, on the digestive functions, which, when long disturbed to the extent of impairing the secretions, are apt to run into structural or organic diseases. But more of this hereafter. To detail all the symptoms of these disorders, were almost an endless task. They are as various as are the numerous sympathies that are called into play in the various organs and structures of the body. It may be well however to enumerate some of the most prominent, and these may be divided into idiopathic and sympathetic. Of the first are pain in some of the regions of the abdomen, particularly after taking food, Dyspepsia, Gastritis, load at stomach or the Epigastrium. Of the second class may be mentioned palpitation of the heart, irritation of the lungs producing cough, dysp-



noxa, and pain in the breast; various distressing
 affections of the head (some of which the patients
 are at a loss to describe) which in their
 aggravated form, sometimes threaten apoplexy,
 extreme drowsiness, pain in the eyes, pervas-
 sion or even loss of vision, impaired hear-
 ing, confused sounds, and tinnitus aurium.
 The intellectual function too is often disturb-
 ed or eludes, nay, not unfrequently, to the
 extent of mental alienation, but more com-
 monly by confusion of ideas, loss of memory,
 ljection of spirits, despondency. Most of these
 latter symptoms, are so diverse and equiv-
 ocal as to render the diagnosis extremely
 difficult, except to one accustomed to combat
 these insidious maladies. Amid this host of
 delusive indications, however there are general-
 ly to be found others, which serve to aid
 the wary practitioner in tracing them up



to their true source. In the S. toly, and
 also I am about a 1/2 of the disorders under
 consideration I shall not pause to describe the
 various positions of the stomach, or the by
 and by stages of this malady leading to the
 plan generally pursued, as the result may
 be seen from a correctly stated list of
 usage. Surprised at to say, that they are primar-
 ily seated in the stomach or liver, from which
 they extend to the duodenum and pancreas, and finally
 to all the organs of the abdomen, a feeling
 there in a greater or less degree, according to
 their duration, or to the violence of the cause.
 As the most marked sign consists in its inop-
 eration, it is difficult to say; for dissection
 does not reveal any structural lesion in the
 stage of this disease, but as already remarked,
 it is primarily, or only one of function that
 is consequence of the position of the organs to the



form has ~~disproportionate~~ ^{disproportionate} upon the almost not true, solid upon by the positive solvent becomes a ~~source~~ of irritation but the sensitive nervous of the cellular coat acquire a state of morbid sensitivity, which is then transmitted to the contiguous parts, through the articulated communications of the intercostal nerves, bringing them into a sympathetic action; and finally in consequence of the free-inoculation of these nerves with the pneuma gustive, and cerebro spinal, communicating this morbid influence to the remotest organs of the system, as is manifested by the numberless sympathetic affections before alluded to. This disturbance of junction with its consequent morbid sensitivity, a organ of such vital importance as those of digestion, cannot long prevail, without causing serious wrong action of some kind, and this is first manifested in a deterioration or diminution of their appropriate secretions;



and the same every action if long continued must
eventuate in disorganization or structural disease.

This interruption of function most commonly begins
in the stomach. May it not save its seat in
the muciparous glands primarily, which so liber-
ally excrete that organ and diminish its secretion.

Those in common with the glandular ap-
paratus of the system, are dependent for their health-
ful action, on the supply of vital or sensorial in-
fluence which they receive through the medium
of the cerebral nerves, in the great fountain of
life, the brain; and any interruption of this influence,
so essential to health and life, must produce a cor-
responding interruption of function, both in the
hands termed, and in the organ to which they are
subservient. Whether the power whose abnormal condition
we are now considering, is affected simply by the sel-
vent powers of the gastric liquor, or so purely vital
and the result of a sort of elective affinity possessed



of the hollow coat of the stomach and intestines, and
arising, through the intervention of the nerves, or liberally
distributed to the tissue, like the action of opposite waves
of a galvanic series, it is possible beyond the reach of
human intellect to determine. Most certain it is howev-
er, that the nervous system is a powerful, nay, entire-
ly essential influence in the important function in ques-
tion: and from many experiments, which have been
made on various alimentary substances, by subjecting
them to the action of the gastric solvent. I would
even not be the last to be persuaded, as in the
process, and that any interference or interruption of
the nervous energy in the apparatus which supplies
this necessary instrument, has the effect to diminish
its quantity, or impair its quality. This is exemplified
by the well known fact, that the digestive powers
of the stomach are suspended or destroyed so, in the
experiment of recent Physiologists, the pneumogastric
nerve has been tied as a factor cut out, so as complete-



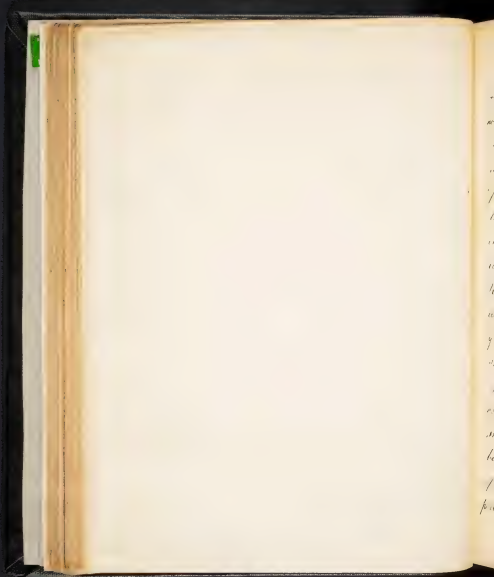
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is unable to bear, even a moderate suggestion.
 Driven, more especially, at that part by & over
 the duodenum. There is now most commonly observed
 evidence of lesion in this last mentioned organ, appar-
 ently by the distress or pain experienced some hours
 after eating, when the food has passed the pylorus,
 perhaps in an imperfectly digested state, & become
 a source of irritation to this organ in its turn.

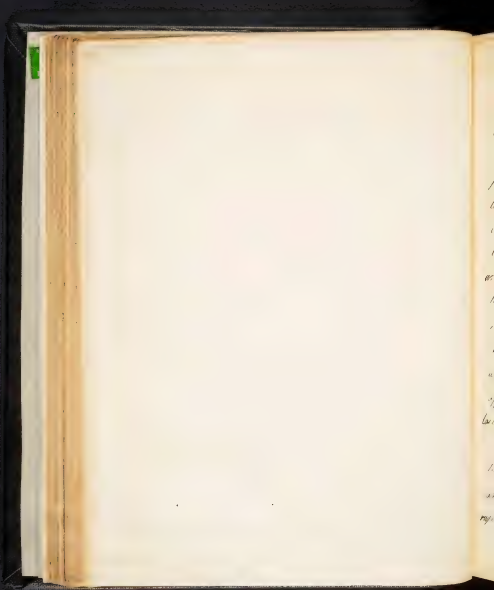
From the direct connection between the duodenum
 and the liver I cannot possibly feel the liver
 can acquire long disease, without affecting the
 latter in a greater or less degree, nor do I think
 Dyspepsia even in its mildest form, can persist
 long without producing some disturbance of func-
 tion in these glands, more particularly the lat-
 ter as is witnessed by the torpor of bowels so com-
 mon in all stages. Indeed the disease, from some
 particular circumstances, or perhaps from a constitu-
 tional state of the liver, often extends its principal —



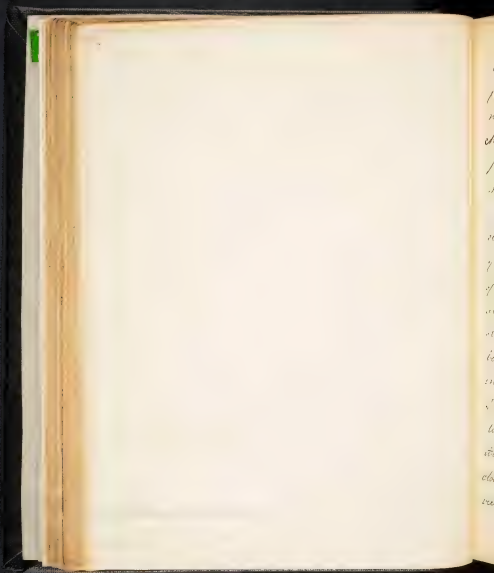
been in other respects but in patients under the same
 symptoms will complain of pain in one or both
 shoulders, of sense of uneasiness in lying on the left
 side. This state of things enhances the difficulty of the
 cure. for under these circumstances, there is always
 more or less congestion of the portal vessels, from their
 interrupted nutritive function, and of course a greater
 tendency to structural disease of the delicate mucous
 tissue. An example of this occurrence is the person of
 my friend Dr. H. I well in whom chronic
 Rheumatism, is the consequence of dyspepsia, terminated
 in violent gastritis. In recovering from which however
 he found himself entirely ^{free} from the two former
 distressing complaints. Dr. H. alleges that he has known
 the same thing to occur in other cases than his own.
 Although the disease of the liver, may often be the
 effect, yet it sometimes the cause of the dyspeptic
 affection; nor can the former perhaps well exist
 without some derangement of the digestive process



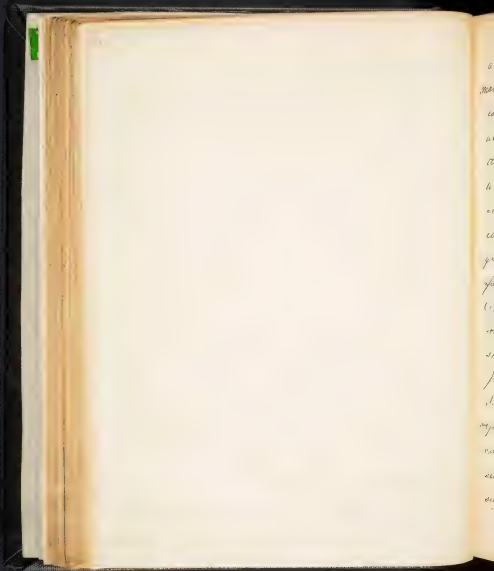
~~usually, and~~ ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~time~~ ~~as~~ ~~a~~ ~~sign~~ ~~and~~
~~indubitable~~ sympathy to account for this phe-
 nomenon, when it is recollected, how important an
 influence this gland exercises over the abdominal viscera,
 and how the venous blood of nearly all these organs
 passes through the venoportum, into the liver, then
 to be elaborated into a fluid, sui generis, which is
 indispensable, not merely to the process of assimilat-
 ion, but to impart to the bowels that stimu-
 lus, which is requisite to keep up their natural
 action; it will not cause astonishment that
 great derangements of the digestive organs, generally,
 should be the consequence of any serious disease
 of this important viscus, intimately as they are
 connected with it, both in function and position;
 moreover a diseased state of the liver, must needs
 be followed by more or less congestion of the vessels
 of the stomach and bowels, which besides im-
 peding their several functions, must increase the



tendency to wrong action, and greatly enhance the
 danger of organic disease. But here we have an
 example of a wonderful provision in the economy
 of nature, to avert evil, and to guard these im-
 portant organs from the consequences just adverted
 to. It is the spleen which, beyond all question, is
 designed as a reservoir, or rather as a waste pipe,
 to let off that surplus or excess of blood, with
 which, the stomach and bowels would otherwise be
 beset, until nature by her own recupe-
 rative efforts, or by the aid of art, can be relieved.
 Should these prove ineffectual, and these morbid,
 and perverted, actions continue, the spleen becomes
 affected in turn. Congestion is the viscous is fol-
 lowed by inflammation chronic or acute; there is great
 enlargement, perhaps induration; the various
 tissues of the abdominal contents, become thickened,
 and all their functions are, more or less, inter-
 rupted or suspended. But nature ever faithful



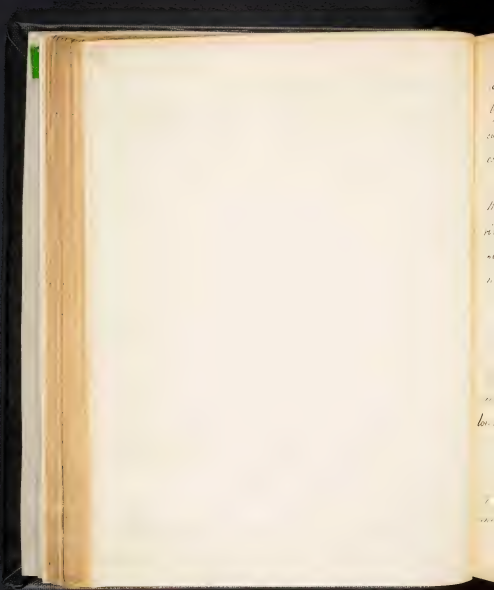
in judgment, makes a further effort to avert
 fatal lesion and disorganization, by opening a
 new drain, and relief is often afforded, by a dis-
 charge from the Haemorrhoidal vessels. It is
 presumable, that these assiduous efforts on
 the part of nature to preserve her works, would
 generally succeed, if she were not thwarted
 either by the officiousness or ill directed aid
 of the Doctor, or by a perseverance on the part
 of the patient, in a course of diet altogether
 adverse to her simple plan. When however
 all means of relief fail, one crisis after another
 becomes involved, until not merely the abdom-
 inal, but the pectoral contents, now, sometimes those
 of the Thorax are at length affected, and the func-
 tions of all become more or less interrupted un-
 til marasmus, or Dropsy, or phthisis, finally -
 closes the scene. If the preceding pathological
 view of the multifarious malady, under consid-



ation is correct, the Treatment, both as regards medicine and regimen, should be more simple than is supposed. But the former will be of little avail, without the strictest attention to the latter. It is difficult to lay down a rule whereby to regulate the diet with any great precision, so different are these appetitions, &c. &c. &c. the idiosyncracies in different individuals. As a general rule however it should consist of the farinacea, and milk or cream, and the patient (except in the early stages when lean animal food may generally be taken with impunity) should avoid all fatty articles - all kinds of pastry, such as made bread, and butter cakes - all condiments except salt - starchy vegetables and unripe fruits, and liquids whatever be their composition can rarely be tolerated by the Dyspeptic, in any considerable quantity - even soup which might be supposed to contain extractive matter both animal



and vegetable, in which of all others most acrim
 dated, is nevertheless very apt to run speedily in-
 to the acetous fermentation, and cause great distress
 — tea and coffee, beverages now in such com-
 mon use, as almost to be ranked among the
 common necessities of life, rarely agree with
 the dyspeptic stomach. They can sometimes be
 taken with advantage however without sugar,
 in small quantities. Stimulating drinks, such
 as the various alcoholic preparations, are al-
 ways harmful. The medical treatment may prop-
 erly be divided into two kinds that which
 is necessary to obviate occasional symptoms — and
 that whose object is for the relief of the dis-
 ease. In cases of great morbid sensibility, one
 of the most distressing symptoms with which
 the dyspeptic is troubled with, is pain in
 the stomach or duodenum, caused by the irrita-
 tion of indigestible ingesta. This is most effect-



ably relieved by evacuating the stomach, either by taking warm water, or a few grains of Sp. cucurbita, which is far less injurious than the common mode of relief by anodyne medicine, which

may indeed allay irritation, but it is at the expense of increasing the weakness and irritability of the stomach and bowels. Acidity, so common and distressing a symptom, and nausea, are best relieved by the following

R. Soda super-carb. ℥ij

Aqua ——— ℥iij

addle Sp. am. mar. Gum. ʒj m.

"which" is both grateful and to be given per os. To answer the same indication the following preparation is given by coughed

R. Magn. cast. ʒj

Colo. Sene ʒj m.

of this a teaspoon full may be taken occasionally mixed with milk.



I am not to suppose that the action of the medicine is to be taken - and here the indication is, in fact, to be taken in other cases, ought to be given - a remedy to cause, and not to be taken to be affected, since a state of every action, to be normal, it indicates. In the important case of the indication in question, with more or less necessary than a strict attention to diet, inasmuch as one of the principal causes of convulsions is indigestion, and a drink. Medicine perhaps is much called for, (e.g. in cases where as may be required to abate occasional symptoms) until there is action, or becomes apparent of confirmed every action, and unimpaired function. Under in a circumstance, more specific measures are called for, and here the blue pill is the appropriate remedy. The indication of the operation of the medicine will be readily understood, when we refer to what was said on the pathology of the disease. The purpose of my prescription is to



of Penzance, where by the epidemic passed to a great degree, owing to the studious and solitary habits of a large proportion of the population is to give the blue pill in doses of one gr. of the mass every two hours until six pills are taken per day - giving at the same time, when the bowels are slow - one or more pills composed of the blue mass, three and a half at bed time, but not in quantities sufficient to disturb the patient before the following morning. This plan of treatment is continued either until relief is afforded, or a slight lurgema is apparent in the gums, when the use of mercury is to be suspended for a few days, and again resumed until a similar effect is produced. It is rarely necessary however to carry it to this extent, more than once or twice, as the distressing symptoms, except in the more advanced stages, soon begin gradually to abate. If no alteration



however are given after a good trial of the mercury
and this I continue in some cases for several
months, the next has recourse to the nitro mari-
atic acid in the following prescriptions, viz.

R. Acid. Nitric. ℥i

Marit. ℥ss

Aqua. . . ʒviij

℥ss. Nitro. diss. ʒiij

To this a teaspoon full is directed p. h. m.: and
continued until relief is afforded. When there is
not ease, and the mercury has failed
to give relief, Dr. H. uses besides the nitro-ma-
riatic both as recommended by Dr. Scott, which
in conjunction with the former mixture, has
frequently produced surprising effects. In many
cases of confirmed character where there is tenderness
at the epigastrium or under the cartilages
of the right hypochondrium, or a suppurum,
is often necessary, and great relief is often affor-



ded by the latter remedy, where there is local
 inflammation. Indeed the debasement of blood
 generally or topically, is often a necessary prelimi-
 nary to the perfect solution of the mer-
 cury. Tonics are rarely, or sometimes never,
 necessary in the diseases under consideration -
 both have a tendency to confirm every action,
 and to convert functional into structural disease.
 In cases of individuals in advanced life or whose
 constitutions have been shattered by intemperance,
 there is sometimes an inability to take the
 mercury, in consequence of its effect on the
 vessels. In such cases it is admissible to com-
 bine a minute portion of opium with that
 drug, to prevent its irritating effect. In cases
 where the liver is irritable, water happens often
 than a generally suppurative it becomes necessary to
 modify it. Perchlor, or as to endeavour to relieve the
 chylificative process from the congestion, which



is the necessary consequence of Hepatic disease. Here such combinations of the mercurial preparations are called for, as will keep up the constant action of the bowels, without causing too much irritation, either in them, or in the stomach. For this purpose the following preparation is used by Dr H.

R. Mass. ex Hydrag. — ʒ ij

Alcali — — — ʒ i

Syr. Benet. — ʒ i

R. Rhei — ʒ iiss

Syr. Rhei — q.s. m. 2

in pill IX in div.

of these pills one or two are given every two hours, until they operate, and this course is pursued — ^{every} ~~every~~ other day, until relief is procured, which is commonly experienced in a little while after a gentle ptyalism is brought about. In cases of the above description, as also in those

where the spleen is disordered, cupping &c. and irritating plasters to the part, are generally required. And it is sometimes necessary under these circumstances, to have recourse to the seton or issue.

Having extended this essay much beyond the limits originally contemplated, I must needs pass over many of the minor parts of the curative plan, which are too familiar and common-place, to require elucidation. The same consideration induces me to omit many interesting cases which are furnished me by my preceptor, illustrative of the truth of the foregoing pathological views and exemplifying the benefits of the treatment of the various affections, which I have ventured to describe in these hastily written pages.

